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REC'D 24 JAN 2005

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

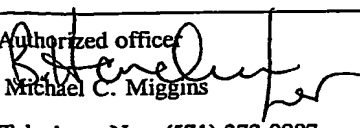
Applicant's or agent's file reference 310048-72895	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US03/25584	International filing date (day/month/year) 15 August 2003 (15.08.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 16 August 2002 (16.08.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): B32B 3/16; G09F 3/10 and US Cl.: 4287/40.1; 283/81, 101		
Applicant AVERY DENNISON CORPORATION		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 4 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 12 March 2004 (12.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 24 November 2004 (24.11.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer  Michael C. Miggins Telephone No. (571) 272-0987

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. _____

PCT/US03/25584

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description:
 pages 1-14 _____ as originally filed
 pages NONE _____, filed with the demand
 pages NONE _____, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the claims:
 pages NONE _____, as originally filed
 pages NONE _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages NONE _____, filed with the demand
 pages 15-18 _____, filed with the letter of 23 September 2004 (23.09.2004)

- ☒ the drawings:
 pages 1-7 _____, as originally filed
 pages NONE _____, filed with the demand
 pages NONE _____, filed with the letter of _____.

- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages NONE _____, as originally filed
 pages NONE _____, filed with the demand
 pages NONE _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages none
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 15-19
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/fig none

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/US03/25584

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. STATEMENT

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-14</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>1-14</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-14</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1-14 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest applicant's multi-layer label and method for producing said label as currently recited in claims 1-14.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

IPEA/US 23 SEP 2004

We claim:

1. A sheet of send and reply labels, comprising:

a printable, single face stock sheet having a printable front side, and a back side, said back side being coated with adhesive in at least some areas;

5 a backing sheet, said face stock sheet being adhered to said backing sheet;

10 a plurality of labels cut from said face stock sheet and backed with adhesive, each of said labels comprising an outer label defined by an outer set of lines of weakness, and an inner label defined by an inner set of lines of weakness, said inner set of lines of weakness being interior to said outer set of lines of weakness;

15 said backing sheet being cut into removable portions, each removable portion covering and extending over a corresponding inner set of lines of weakness on one of said labels, but not extending to the corresponding outer set of lines of weakness on said one of said labels;

20 wherein each of said labels may be individually removed from said sheet, such that the label comprises an outer portion having an area of exposed adhesive on the back side thereof and an inner portion that is removable from said outer portion, said inner portion being covered on the back side thereof by one of said backing sheet portions that extends beyond the inner set of lines of weakness that define said inner label;

whereby a user may remove one of said labels from said sheet, apply said label to a substrate, and later remove a corresponding inner label from the outer label.

AMENDED SHEET

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2. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said lines of weakness are die cuts.

3. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein at least some of said inner label portions are imprinted with address information.

5 4. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said adhesive is a pressure sensitive adhesive.

5. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said lines of weakness are perforations.

10 6. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said sheet of labels further comprises instructions to the user.

7. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said labels are imprintable by an ink jet printer.

8. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said sheet is blank.

15 9. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said backing sheet is coated with a release coating.

10. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said sheet is adapted to be fed into a standard home/office printer such as ink jet and laser printers.

20 11. A sheet of labels as defined in claim 1, wherein said sheet of labels comprises additional layers of face stock, adhesive and backing sheet and additional lines of weakness, and means for forming a piggyback label structure.

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IPEAS 23 SEP 2004

12. A sheet of send and reply labels, comprising:

a single, continuous face stock sheet having a printable front side, and a back side, said back side being fully coated with pressure sensitive adhesive;

5 a release coated backing sheet, said face stock sheet being adhered to said backing sheet;

10 a plurality of blank, printable labels cut from said face stock sheet and backed with adhesive, each of said labels comprising an outer label defined by an outer set of lines of weakness, and an inner label defined by an inner set of lines of weakness, said inner set of lines of weakness being interior to said outer set of lines of weakness;

said backing sheet being cut into removable portions, each removable portion covering and extending over a corresponding inner set of lines of weakness on one of said labels, but not extending to the corresponding outer set of lines of weakness on said one of said labels;

15 wherein said sheet of send and reply labels is of a size and configuration suitable for feeding into a standard office printer, and wherein each of said labels may be individually removed from said sheet, such that each of said labels comprises an outer portion having an area of exposed adhesive on at least edges of the back side thereof and an inner portion that is removable from said
20 outer portion, said inner portion being covered on the back side thereof by one of said backing sheet portions that extends beyond the inner set of lines of weakness that define said inner label;

25 whereby a user may remove one of said labels from said sheet, apply said label to a substrate, and remove a corresponding inner label from the outer label.

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13. A method of addressing a substrate, using a label removed from a sheet of send and reply labels, the sheet of labels having a printable, single face stock sheet having a printable front side, and a back side, said back side being coated with adhesive in at least some areas; a backing sheet, said face stock sheet being adhered to said backing sheet; a plurality of labels cut from said face stock sheet and backed with adhesive, each of said labels comprising an outer label defined by an outer set of lines of weakness, and an inner label defined by an inner set of lines of weakness, said inner set of lines of weakness being interior to said outer set of lines of weakness; said backing sheet being cut into removable portions, each removable portion covering and extending over a corresponding inner set of lines of weakness on one of said labels, but not extending to the corresponding outer set of lines of weakness on said one of said labels; wherein each of said labels may be individually removed from said sheet, such that the label comprises an outer portion having an area of exposed adhesive on the back side thereof and an inner portion that is removable from said outer portion, said inner portion being covered on the back side thereof by one of said backing sheet portions that extends beyond the inner set of lines of weakness that define said inner label, the method comprising the steps of:

printing address information onto at least one inner label portion of a removable label;

removing the label from the sheet;

adhering the label to a substrate;

removing the inner label portion of a removable label;

applying the inner label portion to another substrate to be addressed.

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